

West Main Co-op - Turpin

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simple subject appeal. Simple Pleasures is a collection of paintings that hopefully reflect the title," says Turpin.

Many of the works in this collection are of people, places, and things, which are realistically represented with a style of soft simplicity and emotional calmness. "The response I get most often from viewers is a kinship to my feelings, a viewing pleasure," he said. "I have a representational style that reflects my love and admiration for the natural elements that make life on this earth so wonderful and ever changing.'

These 12 oil-on-canvas paintings took about a year to produce and each will sell for \$45 to \$1,250.

Turpin was one of the Co-op's founding members, however, he left its membership in 2013 because of family duties. "It's always a pleasure to be involved with West Main Artists Co-op," he said. "It is a great group of people fulfilling a need for artists to grow with their craft and enjoy new works by ongoing and emerging artists with the facilities available to make this possible.'

A resident of Moore, SC, Turpin, 68, is a graduate of Mars Hill College with a bachelor's degree in studio art. Born in Whittier, NC, he spent his early years in Oklahoma, but returned to North Carolina at 6 years old. As the Creative Director for a commercial agency, he has won many awards for his work, including illustrations and photography. His work in the fine arts has been exhibited extensively throughout the Carolinas from 2005 to 2016. He was also a founding member of the Artist Guild Gallery of Greenville, SC, holding a leadership position from 2007 until 2009.

'My studio is in a barn that my father and I built in 1990 on our small country farm," he said. "It is located adjacent to my home, where my wife and I have lived for 46-plus years. My medium of preference is oil paint. I prefer painting on stretched canvas. On occasion, I will try producing works in the area of pottery and printmaking."

In explaining his process and inspirations, Turpin said, "I am inspired by something I see and wish to share with others, and seeing other artists' work and how they approach painting similar subjects. My process is when I see or experience something that motivates me to gather resource materials, which I will translate into a fairly detailed drawing on the canvas. I will then stain the canvas usually with a burnt sienna and begin painting from there."

West Main Artists Co-op is a leading non-profit arts agency in Spartanburg, providing affordable studio and gallery space to local artists. It has more than 50 members, of which more than 30 have studio space at the facility that was once a Baptist church. It has three small galleries and one large one. Each month, it has at least three exhibits: two by members and one by a guest artist. Exhibits are always free for public viewing. In addition, the Co-op has workshops and the most-extensive collection of for-sale locally made artwork in the city.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www. WestMainArtists.org).

West Main Artists Co-op in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Roderice Cardell

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West Main Artists Co-op in Spartanburg, | first public exhibit, consisting of about 20

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